

Marion:

These are the papers I told you about. The original request in handwritten in pencil by the Company Commander I had never seen before last week. It was in back of the second paper which was the typed copy by the H Company Clerk, AS you know the Company Clerks were rarely with the company and normally worked at Regimentsl HQ in some burnt out farmhouse or dugoutThe you see the official promotion which just deletes l the flowery language.

On the Bronze star citation I have never seen the original request and I am sure that was in pencil too.

John

Summary

During the period extending from April 1, 1944 - May 23rd 1944
Sgt. John Fallon displayed remarkable traits of leadership in the
organization, training & actual operation of a special reconnaissance
& combat patrol platoon composed solely of combat engineers.

Though his men were lacking in experience, and the
time element for this training was limited, Sgt. John Fallon
displayed outstanding initiative, foresight & aggressiveness
in the training of his platoon, the results of which were outstanding
in their accomplishment during the period that St. Fallon's platoon
was engaged as Infantry on the Mussolini Canal, near Anzio, Italy

Tom May 28th. May 26 St. Fallon continually led his platoon
during daylight & night patrols, and ~~so~~ inflicted numerous casualties
on the enemy, as well as disrupting their communications & gathering
valuable information regarding enemy disposition.

On several occasions, St. Fallon's platoon was subjected to
heavy, machine gun, mortar & artillery fire. Despite these handicaps

& the density of enemy mine fields. It fallow successfully penetrated the enemy positions on three occasions ~~with~~ again inflicting losses on the enemy.

On 23rd May, It fallow ^{while again on patrol} was severely wounded in the head & leg by a mortar shell. Despite his wounds, It fallow successfully withdrew his patrol four of whom were wounded, in the face of intense enemy fire.

It fallow exhibited remarkable traits of leadership & ~~aggressiveness~~ ^{aggressiveness} in the execution of an extremely hazardous type of work. His accomplishments ~~are a credit to his country~~ ^{continually afforded} his organized knowledge of enemy location & intent, & were the prime factor in his or gang along maintaining a successful defensive position on the Mussolini canal.

It fallow's devotion to duty & abilities as a platoon leader inspired his men & was a reflection on his country & the service.

HEADQUARTERS
COMPANY "H", 36TH ENGR REGT (C)
APO #306

7 June 1944

AG 210.2 x 210.1-W

Subject: Battlefield Promotion.

To : Commanding General, Fifth Army.

1. Pursuant to provisions contained in Section II, Circular 15, Headquarters Fifth Army, 1 March 1944, the following named officer ~~is~~ is recommended for battle field promotion to the grade of First Lieutenant:

a. Full name, current rank or grade, serial number and branch of service: JOHN T. FALLON, Second Lieutenant, O-1113198, Corps of Engineers
Component of officer: AUS.

b. Unit and organization: Company "H", 36th Engineer Regiment (C).

c. Statement that a Table of Organization vacancy exists, naming this position: _____

d. Date of present grade or rank: _____

e. Statement on demonstrated outstanding ability to command in actual combat, under fire, citing date(s), instance(s) and circumstance(s): During the period extending from April 1, 1944 to May 23, 1944 2nd Lt. John Fallon displayed remarkable traits of leadership in the organization, training and actual operation of a special reconnaissance and combat patrol platoon composed solely of combat engineers.

Though his men were lacking in experience, and the time element for this training was limited, 2nd Lt. John Fallon displayed outstanding initiative, foresight and aggressiveness in the training of his platoon, the results of which were outstanding in their accomplishment during the period that Lt. Fallon's platoon was engaged as Infantry on the Mussolini Canal, near Anzio, Italy.

From May 8 to May 23 Lt. Fallon continually led his platoon ^{on} daylight and night patrols, and inflicted numerous casualties on the enemy as well as disrupting their communications and gathering valuable information regarding enemy disposition.

On several occasions, Lt. Fallon's platoon was subjected to heavy machine gun, mortar and artillery fire. Despite these handicaps and the density of enemy mine fields, Lt Fallon successfully penetrated the enemy positions on three occasions again inflicting losses on the enemy.

On 23rd May, Lt. Fallon while again on patrol was severely wounded in the head and leg by a mortar shell. Despite his wounds, Lt. Fallon successfully withdrew his patrol, four of whom were wounded, in the face of intense enemy fire.

Lt. Fallon exhibited remarkable traits of leadership and aggressiveness in the execution of an extremely hazardous type of work. His accomplishments continually afforded his organization knowledge of enemy location and intent, and was the prime factor in his organization's maintaining a successful defensive position on the Mussolini Canal, ^{near Anzio Italy, and the immediate information of the}

Lt. Fallons devotion to duty and abilities as a platoon leader inspired his men and was reflection on his country and the service.

enemy's withdrawal from that sector.

*Personal
201 file*

CERTIFICATE OF PROMOTION

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY
A. P. O. #464, U. S. Army

SPECIAL ORDERS)
:
NUMBER 169)

17 June 1944.

E X T R A C T

1. By direction of the President and pursuant to authority contained in letter, Headquarters NATOUSA, 16 May 1944, subject: Authority to Make Combat Appointments and Promotions in the US, file AG 210.1/479-P, the following officers, having clearly demonstrated their fitness for promotion by outstanding performance in actual combat, are temporarily promoted in the Army of the United States to grades indicated, effective this date. Date of rank is date of this order unless otherwise indicated after name. These promotions unless sooner terminated, terminate automatically at the expiration of the emergency and six months thereafter, at which time the officers will revert to their permanent grade. No oath of office or acceptance is required. In accordance with the provisions of Public Law 746, 77th Congress, promotion is deemed to have been accepted as of date of this order, and under the provisions of the same law officers are entitled to receive pay and allowances of the higher grade from such date.

2D LT TO 1ST LT

JOHN T. FALLON, O113198, CE

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By command of Lieutenant General CLARK:

A. M. GRUENTHER,
Major General, G. S. C.,
Chief of Staff.

OFFICIAL:

M. F. Grant
M. F. GRANT
Colonel, A. G. D.,
Adjutant General.

NOTE: Three copies of orders sealed with the official seal of this headquarters for immediate delivery to officer referred to above, two of these are for file with his pay account.

First Lieutenant JOHN T. FALLON, 01113198, CE, 2828th Engineer Combat Battalion (then a member of the 36th Engineer Combat Regiment), for heroic achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy in France on 9 October 1944. When a patrol, advancing to determine enemy dispositions, encountered small-arms fire, one member was wounded seriously. Lieutenant FALLON, in full view of the enemy, rushed forward 150 yards to reach the wounded man and, despite devastating sniper fire, evacuated the casualty for medical treatment. His outstanding heroism was inspirational to all and was in accordance with military tradition. Entered Military Service from Massachusetts.

First Lieutenant (then Second Lieutenant) CYRIL J. KELLY, 01180986, FA, 241st Field Artillery Battalion, for heroic service in connection with military operations against the enemy in Germany between 1 March 1945 and 13 March 1945. Lieutenant Kelly repeatedly subjected himself to intense enemy fire to register accurate artillery concentrations. He established observation posts in exposed positions and directed such effective fire that two counter-attacks were repelled. His courage and thorough knowledge of artillery capabilities enabled friendly troops to secure strategic positions. His heroic service was in accordance with military tradition. Entered Military Service from Iowa.

Second Lieutenant (then First Sergeant) WALTER N. McILWAIN, 02015633, INF, 5th Ranger Infantry Battalion, for heroic achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy in Germany on 3 March 1945. When the platoon leader was wounded, Lieutenant McILWAIN took command, and led a successful attack against a heavily defended hill. He continually exposed himself to intense fire to secure the objective, consolidate the position and care for the injured. Although momentarily knocked unconscious by the concussion of a rocket, he refused to be evacuated. His actions exemplify the high traditions of the Army. Entered Military Service from Rhode Island.

First Sergeant MURRELL J. BLIGH, 20450802, FA, 241st Field Artillery Battalion, for heroic achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy in Germany on 6 March 1945. During a heavy shelling of his unit by the enemy, in preparation for a counter-attack, Sergeant BLIGH, battery executive, rallied his men and continued the vital fire support mission of his battery. His coolness and presence of mind enabled forward observers to deliver accurate and deadly fire upon the enemy, inspired his men, and reflect great credit upon himself and the Army. Entered Military Service from Tennessee.

First Sergeant JOHN C. HODGSON, 33192743, INF, 5th Ranger Infantry Battalion, for heroic achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy in Germany on 2 March 1945. While acting as platoon leader, Sergeant HODGSON led his men in overrunning a strong enemy fortification. He later rallied them to repulse a fierce counter-attack by a numerically superior force. During the artillery barrage that followed, he left his place of safety to administer first aid to the wounded and assist in their evacuation. His actions exemplify the high traditions of the Army. Entered Military Service from District of Columbia.

First Sergeant (then Technical Sergeant) KENNETH W. HUNTER, 39566183, INF, 5th Ranger Infantry Battalion, for heroic achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy in Germany on 3 December 1944. Sergeant HUNTER, platoon sergeant, defied an intense concentration of hostile fire by standing upright to more effectively direct a defense during a dawn counter-attack. He further contributed to the success of the engagement by killing and wounding many of the enemy with his own sub-machine gun. His courageous actions exemplify the high traditions of the Army. Entered Military Service from California.